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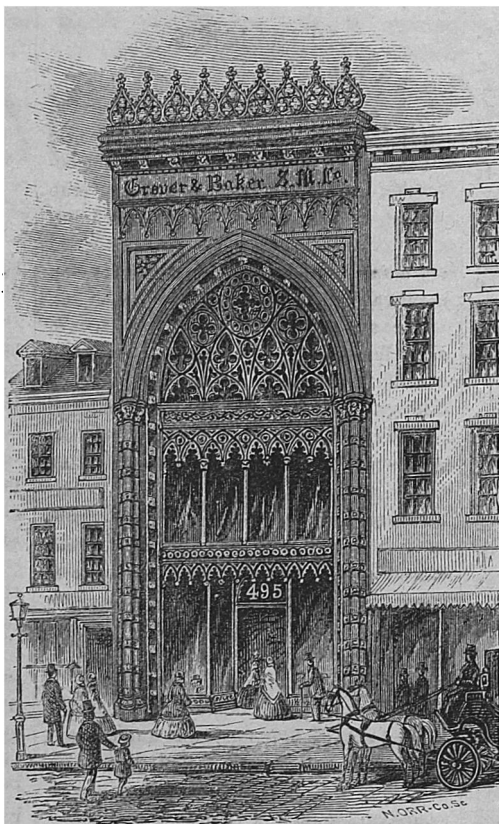
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DEPARTMENT OF USEFUL ART.

Grover & Baker's Sewing Machines

THE recent decision of the Patent Commissioner, extending the Howe Patent, for a term of seven years, calls renewed attention to the machines which retain an exclusive monopoly of the Howe needle and movement. "Cheap machines" are thus prohibited from the use of the only correct and reliable stitch, and all who require a good sewer, must fall back upon those machines, which are permitted the use of Howe's patent.

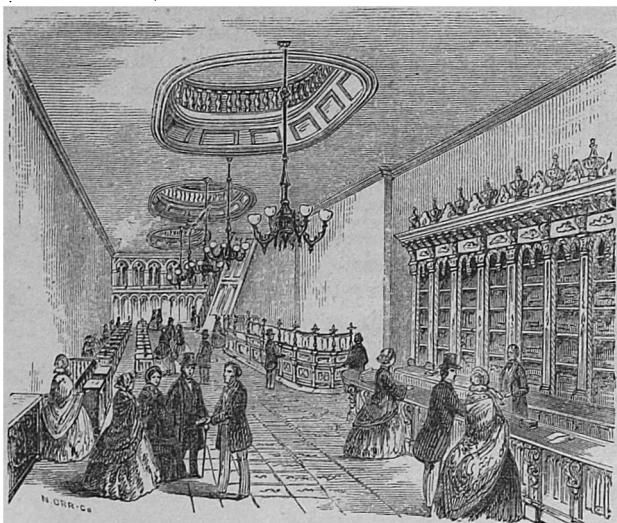
Of these, it must be conceded, the Grover and Baker Machine occupies a front rank. Its unrivalled strength of stitch, its noiseless movement, its ease of adjustment and simplicity of construction, all conspire to render it the Family and Plantation Sewer, *par excellence*. So great has been the success of this Machine, that the establishment of Grover & Baker has become one of the features of Broadway—for its magnitude and beauty. The front of their edifice, at 495 Broadway, is admirably re-produced in the adjoining view. It is composed wholly of cast iron, arch, fret work, cornice, window frames and all, showing how beautifully this metal is adapted to building and ornamental purposes. The windows are of plate glass, of the heaviest and most expensive character—those of the lower floor on each side of the entrance to the sales room being fourteen feet in height by five feet in width, all in one solid plate—those of the Ladies' Parlor being ten feet in height by four feet eight inches in width. Over the Ladies' Parlor the front springs into an arch in the Norman style of Architecture, through the fret work of which the third floor is lighted. Entering the place the observer is at once in a large and elegant sales room, twenty-five feet wide by two hundred feet long. The sales room which is elegantly furnished, is lighted by seven chandeliers, of six burners each. Upon the right side of this room, as you enter, is the counter and goods' shelving, where the pur-



The Grover & Baker Establishment.

chaser obtains needles, silk, thread, etc., etc.—everything being kept on sale which may be required for the successful working of the Machines. Beyond the counter are the desks of the book-keepers, cashier, advertising agent, etc. Machines occupy the left side and centre of the floor, running through the whole length. The Ladies' Parlor occupies the second floor. In this room are the machines on which those buying are taught how to work them successfully. Skilful and obliging lady operators are in attendance, to render necessary assistance, and an hour or two generally suffices to initiate the most inexperienced into the mysteries of the whole thing—practice, then, only being necessary to make a rapid and good sewer.

The celebrated stitch of the Grover & Baker machines is formed by carrying the upper thread through the fabric, by means of a verticle eye pointed needle, where a loop is thrown out as the needle rises, which loop is entered by a circular needle, carrying the under thread, and this under thread, in its turn, throws out a loop, which is caught by the verticle needle as it comes down again. This series of interlopings continues until the seam is formed, which gives great strength and elasticity. The machinery which makes this stitch is a marvel of simplicity and ingenuity, requiring no mechanical skill to manage. Nor does it require other adjustment than a mere change of threads and needles, to adapt it to the character of the work to be sewed—coarse or fine, as the case may be. One of the lightest family machines will sew gauze laces, and all the varieties and kinds of fabrics, between and including beaver cloth, without changing either needle, thread, or tensions; will sew each equally well, and return to either variety of work with perfect satisfaction. The thread is used direct from the spools as obtained at the store—no re-winding being necessary or desirable—in this respect differing materially from other machines. Each seam is perfectly finished at any moment when the motion is stopped, and does not require to be tied at the end of each seam to prevent ravelling.



View of Sales Room.



View of Ladies' Parlor.